



January 2021 e-Newsletter

Starting up our weekly check-ins again

Members and friends of the congregation who would like to make a mid-week connection with others, and check in with the minister, during these challenging times are welcome to join **every Wednesday** from **3-4PM** spending time in conversation and sharing.



Zoom Meeting—

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87830641070?pwd=eDdiQlk0d2JlRFZlUzRpejNUV21TZz09>

Meeting ID: 878 3064 1070

Passcode: 077848

Women's Perspective —



Let's Stay Connected Ladies!

For our **8:30 - 10AM** Women's Perspective zoom gather held on **January 9th** will be led by Connie Molitor. The will be: What happened the month you were born?

Zoom Meeting—

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89691366230?pwd=YytmaVNrOEVOdWNCN0JsK1dyNnNQZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 9136 6230

Passcode: 854582

UUCY Ramblers: Walk safely with UUCY Friends!



Are you a walker and eager to reconnect with UUCY friends in a safe outdoor environment? Consider joining us for one or more of our four neighborhood rambles hosted by members of UUCY. Each will be held on Tuesdays at 10AM beginning in December and in the months ahead, as long as there is an interest. Walks will be 2- 3 miles; we will be wearing masks and social distancing. Whether you prefer brisk or leisurely walking, all are welcome to come and walk at your own pace. If weather is an issue, contact the host to see if it is canceled.

Week 1 (Jan. 5) - Southern Ramble meeting at York Township Park. (25 Oak Street, York) Hosted by Deb Gogniat (gogniatd@gmail.com or 717-578-3085)

Week 2 (Jan. 12) - Eastern Ramble meeting at John Rudy Park (main entrance, near BR), hosted by Julie Amberg (juliesamberg@gmail.com or 717-654-4203)

Week 3 Jan. 19) - Central Ramble- UPMC Wellness Trail.(Parking lot B park in lots overlooking Roosevelt ave. marked Wellness Trail) hosted by Joan Fulton (joanfulton60@gmail.com or 717-873-7541)

Week 4 (Jan. 26) - Northern Ramble meeting at Cousler Park (Entrance A on Church Road with large sign & BR) hosted by Carol Stowell (stowellcarol@gmail.com or 717-292-0708)

Adult Faith Development Corner

Mindfulness Exploration Discussion Group

Sunday Evenings 7 – 8pm

Facilitator: Donna Alcorn

Interested in exploring or deepening your spiritual practices? Come and join us on Sunday evenings as we nourish our capacity to keep an open heart and mind, lean into discomfort, and strengthen our own flourishing in this world. Feel free to attend when the spirit calls you.

This month we have five stimulating You Tube videos presented by two internationally known teachers: Caroline Myss and Tara Brach. Please see the dates and links below.

Zoom Meeting—

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86087245534pwd=L29pOFAwY3dIVWVyeWZyYIBQQnVCZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 8724 5534

Passcode: 605136

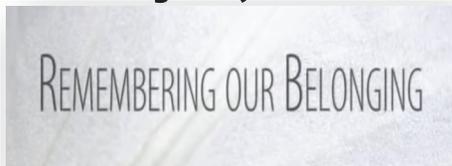
January 3, 2021



Caroline Myss “The Power of Holy Language” Interview with Tami Simon from Sounds True.

<https://www.resources.soundstrue.com/podcast/caroline-myss-the-power-of-holy-language/>

January 10, 2021



Tara Brach “Remembering Our Belonging” Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXhppfqf-jw>

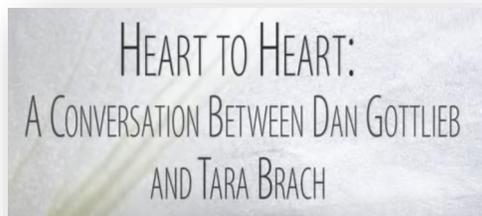
January 17, 2021



Tara Brach “Remembering Our Belonging” Part 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EiNLZi8kA4c>

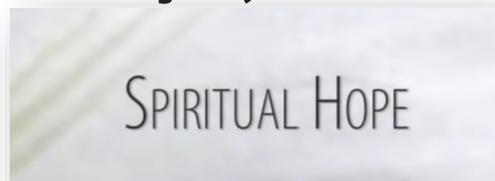
January 24, 2021



“Heart to Heart” A Conversation between Dan Gottlieb and Tara Brach

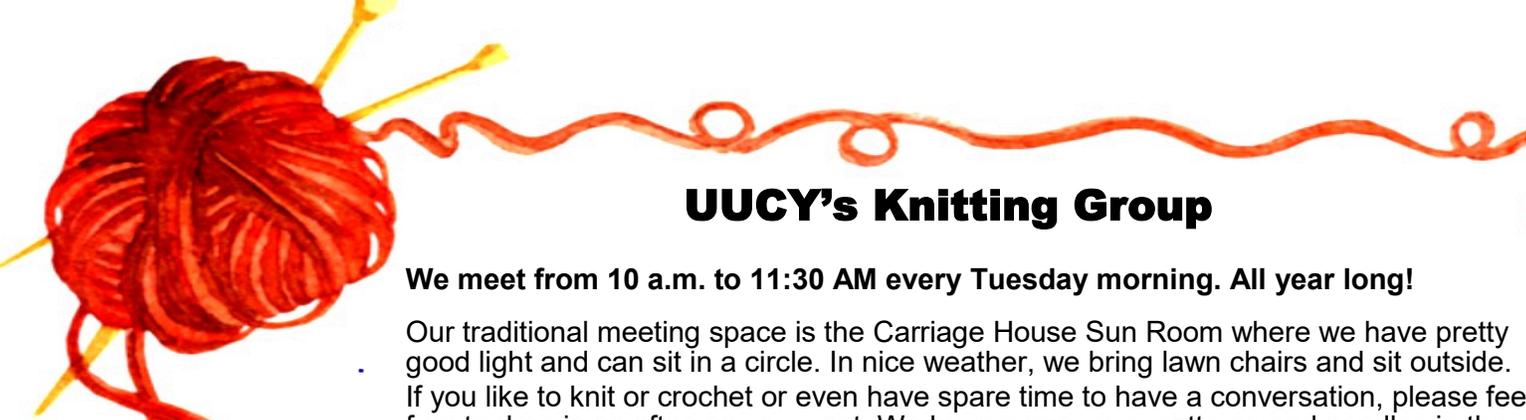
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWYwy1129WI>

January 31, 2021



Tara Brach “Spiritual Hope”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9erb6HJWP-0>



UUCY's Knitting Group

We meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 AM every Tuesday morning. All year long!

Our traditional meeting space is the Carriage House Sun Room where we have pretty good light and can sit in a circle. In nice weather, we bring lawn chairs and sit outside. If you like to knit or crochet or even have spare time to have a conversation, please feel free to drop in as often as you want. We have spare yarn, patterns and needles in the closet in the Leader Room so we can even get you started if you want to learn! Not everyone makes things and not every member is a UU. Most of us are retired, though we always enjoy hearing a younger perspective! This group has been meeting for many, many years and welcome new comers!

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85673585334?pwd=UDFrSGM4NnJYdFppRFpHdHIMVFh5QT09>

Meeting ID: 856 7358 5334

PassCode: 714721

A letter of Thanks from the Immigrant B.C. to his many supporters at UUCY:

Dear Members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York,

First and foremost, I will like to express my deepest gratitude to all the members of the Unitarian Universalist for their hard work and dedication for coming out in a very special way to support me. I am eternally grateful. I hope you are all safe and sound amid this global pandemic of this Corona Virus and I know the impact of this is very difficult on a lot of the members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation out there. And I can imagine how it is affecting all of the wonderful members of this congregation. But I take this golden moment to express my deepest gratitude to you all and your family's for your courageous act of kindness and compassion in reaching out to me in a miraculous way, more so I thank God for using this Congregation for making this happen.

I really appreciate the warm welcome that Ma Carol and Mr. David gave me when I was released from detention facility both of them and members of this Congregation are all angels send from above for your support has shed a lot of light into my present world and words cannot express how much Joy, hope and comfort it has brought me. I also hope my letter also brings Joy to your hearts.

Other than that, I hope the almighty keep all members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation to do anything to stay safe and healthy during this moment and manage this hard time. Indeed I am very grateful for the considerate act of kindness and generosity that this Congregation has shown me.

Your Truly
B.C.



The “*Aims of Scouting*” are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

CUB SCOUTING is for boys and girls in kindergarten through fifth grades, or 6 to 10 years of age. Children who are older than 10, or who have completed the fifth grade, are eligible to join the [Scouting BSA](#), or [Sea Scouting](#) or [Venturing programs](#). **Cub Pack 37** (K-5th grade) meets in the sanctuary during the school year on Wednesday nights from 7-8 PM. **Our Cub Pack 37 program is eagerly welcoming new members!**

For more information on Cub Pack 37, contact **Cub Committee Chair George Kain**, cell 717-880-8730, email ghkain3@gmail.com

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do
My duty to God and my country and to
obey the Scout Law; To help other people
at all times; to keep myself physically
strong, mentally awake, and morally

Scout Law

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly,
Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,
Brave, Clean, and Reverent

Scout Motto

Be Prepared

Scout Slogan

Do a Good Turn Daily

UU Principles

We, the member congregation of the
Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant
to affirm and promote:

- The inherent dignity and worth of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part



The following Vision and Mission statements of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York were approved and adopted at the Congregational Meeting held on 27th September, 2020:

VISION

UUCY aspires to:

- provide a welcoming and safe spiritual haven for all individuals and families;
- serve the community at large by helping those in need in partnership with other like-minded organizations;
- lead as a progressive voice for justice, peace, and love.

MISSION

UUCY’s mission is to be a transformational faith community that:

- Serves the religious and spiritual needs of a wide and diverse group of people;
- Earns recognition as a leader in the work of social justice;
- Guides our children to become more engaged global citizens



Ron and Mary Toomey became members of UUCY in 2000, When Rev. Renjillian and Rev. Kate Bortner were our ministers. Our first visit to UUCY was the result of an invitation by Betty Marshall, first woman to serve as Mayor of York, PA. When a former student of Ron's, Matt Chronister, gave us a grand tour of the entire 9 acres of a beautiful environment and told us UUCY stands for "all inclusive and each one decides on their own philosophy or theology", we signed for the course to become members. Here we met Russ and Martha Holmes who were instrumental in our membership.

We grew up as Lutheran for Ron, Mary as an Otterbein EUB. We both, being musicians, were active as organist and choir directors. For many events, Ron brought his brass choirs to augment the special music. Ron retired from the York City Schools as Director of the Arts, after 34 years of service. We both grew up in York and Mt. Wolf and live in the home where

Mary was born and in which we raised our family, our daughter Christine and son Michael.

Our hobbies were and still are, Music, Books, Travel, Gardening, plus we had 2 businesses, Toomey's Music Shoppe and Very Truly Yours Catering. What changed our lives for the better, was our marriage of 71 years this Christmas Eve, 2020. We tried to live by the GOLDEN RULE and being teachers, we practiced to all- equality, justice, peace and loving and caring for each other. We were fortunate to have great ancestors from whom we learned much, in many ways, i e. every decade we set 3 goals to attain. When traveling abroad, we stayed with families in each country so we could share and learn. We have a God Son in Arles France, the child of our "adopted " French daughter ,who spent time each summer, for several years, with us in Mt.Wolf.

We built a home in Chincoteague, Va.in 1970 and over 30 years spent summers and many week-ends in Spring and fall, making wonderful friendships , many of which endure today. Needless to say, walking the beach on Assateague, crabbing, and flounder fishing, were high on the list of activities.

We enjoy coffee and tea, especially on cold days at 4:00 PM we have TEA with home baked goodies We are both listeners and talkers and try to manage stress (especially in these days of covid 19) with a big hug and music. Playing the piano is an asset. We try very hard not to miss anything in life, trying to learn from each occasion and person we encounter. We were fortunate to have met many very interesting people and learned from each one. We always try to be ourselves, never wanting to be otherwise ,but keep our eyes and ears open to adopt those good qualities we see in others. Our hope is that maybe we can pass on some good thoughts and ideas to our family, friends, students and others, that they may find useful in attaining a richer, better life with peace.



The greatest gift one can give is LOVE —love is a gift that keeps on giving! At UUCY, Love is a cornerstone of our relationships. We accept, support, and celebrate our congregation and it's life. As we are, the value and depth of these relationships provide sources of love and security. How you grow older is your decision!

Elie Weisel who died recently n was a Holocaust survivor said, "Think Higher and Live Deeper!" Love is the most personal of emotions— it is our reason for living and our reason for staying. LOVE is defined as a feeling, tenderness, fondness, admiration, honesty, idolized, devotion, ans Love can't always be put into words.

If You love Someone, Tell Them!

Deepak Chopra wrote, “ To be able to see the world in the light of love, which can only come from within, is to live without fear, in unshakable peace.” Each of us feels love and express love differently, everyone is unique and every pair of lovers create a singular world. Yet all lovers share the courage to be in love. A loving relationship is a delicate merger of souls — there is a risk in that, but no more powerful magic in all universe. Even Time can’t break bonds forged of love.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh said, “Only Love can be divided endlessly and still not diminish.” Centuries of thought on the eternal topic of Love — How it feels to fall in love, how love can hurt, and how it heals. Anyone can become an expert on love, one just has to be in love. Roman poet Virgil said “Love Conquers All Things! To Fear Love is to Fear Life!” George Sands quote is “ONLY ONE HAPPINESS IN LIFE, TO LOVE AND BE LOVED”. Ralph Waldo Emerson is quoted as saying GIVE ALL TO LOVE AND OBEY THY HEART”.

A personal note; a friend told Ron and me, 67 years ago, “Each day, do something that makes your mate glad they married you!” This was advice we tried to follow. In the book “*Hope Dies Lasts*” written by Studs Terkel, is a reminder that Hole like Love, are Powerful Medicines”! How True!

Erik Erikson, a prominent psychologist wrote,” Later years should be a time when life becomes whole. The circle closes and life’s purpose is fulfilled —with love it is the road to Freedom.” 1st - longevity is a primary good, 2nd-creative experience keeps life interesting, and 3rd - wisdom is a collective reward for a long life. You alone are the judge of your worth—there is freedom in this realization. Try to be loving, nonjudgmental, and self accepting — this is a great goal.

In closing I submit “ When one ages and wrinkles appear, let them be from laughter rather than tears.”
Something to remember — YOUTH IS A GIFT OF NATURE
AGE IS A WORK OF ART!

*With Gratitude and Love,
Thank You! - Mary Toomey*



WHAT TIME IS IT? IT’S STEWARDSHIP TIME!

We just celebrated Christmas and Channukah, Kwanza and the New Year so.....
for UUCY it is **STEWARDSHIP TIME!!**

If you haven’t already you will soon receive an envelope from Diane and Tom Kearney, your Stewardship chairpersons. It will contain your 2020 Tax Year Pledge Report for your tax preparation. It will also contain a Pledge Letter, Pledge Form and Auto Pay Authorization Form. **The pledge drive runs through February 28th.** This is the time to think about all that UUCY brings into our lives including:

- spiritual worship, exploration and a liberal community within York County
- religious education
- social justice activities
- crafting opportunities
- men’s and women’s discussion groups
- golden UU gatherings
- community service space on our campus for:
 - boy/girl scouts, PFLAG, ESL, Recovering Addicts and Susquehanna Folk Music

**SO PLEDGE GENEROUSLY.
NEW PLEDGE YEAR STARTS JULY 1, 2021 AND RUNS THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022.**

New UUCY– Healthy Communications Team

The Healthy Communications Team (HCT) is a committee of UUCY that offers people within our church community who have concerns or negative experiences to be involved in a meeting and solutions-focused process. HCT volunteer facilitators assist both parties to make their own decisions regarding how to resolve differences and what to do to restore relationships with each other, if that is what they would like to do.

Alexandra Bindon (Alexandra.bindon@gmail.com) would be your contact if you have more questions. She could also provide the first-step directions on how to initiate the HCT process.



Staff & Board Reflections

A message from UUCY Board Chair, Dan Fink,

The start of a new year is always a good time to take stock and plan. As leadership considers where we've been in the past year and what lies ahead, I see 2021 as a time of opportunity, of possibilities.

As a congregation, we have managed to navigate nine months of COVID and start the year on a relatively stable footing. While we have made the difficult choice to not gather in person -- and it has been difficult to not be together, there's no doubt about that -- I see a congregation that is still using its collective voice for good. Together, we supported COVID relief efforts. Together, we are continuing to support Cho, our immigrant friend. Together, we responded to the Reverse Advent call for donations to The Movement.

And we have done all of that while providing virtual services that are connecting with members and visitors. Thanks to Rev. Terry, Matthew Shineman and Gretchen Dekker and the hardworking Worship volunteers for building that plane after it was in the air. We hired Rachel Schmidt, our new communications person, who is helping us be smarter about how we do our messaging. We are re-thinking the Congregational Administrator position. And we have a new group of volunteers raising their hands to step into leadership positions.

Possibilities.

Even at this most challenging time, I see UUCY poised to become stronger as an organization and an even more effective partner and leader in the community. I'm grateful for all of you who continue to be here for each other and for the work that remains undone in York County, central Pennsylvania and statewide.

Happy New Year.



—Dan Fink
Chairman, Board of Directors

Staff & Board Reflections

A message from our minister, Rev. Terry Cummings

This time last year, we were all wishing people a “Happy New Year,” with no idea that within a few weeks our lives would be turned upside down forever by the COVID 19 pandemic.

I think that most of us anticipated that the 2020 election cycle would be contentious, but I’m not sure we were ready for what eventually transpired. Like people with long-guns barging into the Michigan state capitol building, for example. I know that I didn’t have a clue just how bad it might become; how fragile our democratic system actually is.

Looking back, as terrible as the events of last summer were, as terrible as COVID 19 has been for so many people and families and businesses in our country and around the world, the most unsettling thing for me in 2020 was the experience of fear. Fear that the various insidious methods of gerrymandering would effectively nullify my vote and the votes of millions of others. I’ve not experienced fear like that before, and I’m not generally a fearful person.

That my biggest fear was that my vote would not be counted is, of course, a reflection of my own white privilege. The tragic events that brought new life to the Black Lives Matter movement this summer were unreal, almost surreal, viewed from a distance by those of us who are white. For those who are the object of discrimination on a daily basis, however, suffering at the hands of law enforcement agencies is very real indeed. Nevertheless, there is some comfort to be found in the fact that BLM did gain ground, and anti-racism has become a topic of national conversation.

Like most of our members and friends, I am sitting here in the last week of 2020 wondering whether 2021 will be a better year than the one just ending. Incurable optimist that I am, I believe the answer is yes. And I also believe that, armed with the knowledge of the past few years, the year ahead offers boundless possibilities, especially for our church.

When the pandemic took hold in March of 2020, UUCY was ill-prepared for the task of offering Sunday services by Zoom. We were just beginning to understand the need to explore the opportunities offered by expanding our presence on social media.

With amazing agility and dedication our staff and our lay volunteers seized the day, and a rapid transformation took place. Your Board bravely and wisely authorized a modest investment in new equipment and technology that is going to serve us well into the decade. As a result, UUCY has a significant opportunity to extend its reach into the York community as we enter the new year.

The threats to our democracy this past year, and real threats there were, as well as the pandemic, are a lesson to all of us that the things we hold precious should never be taken for granted. This important life lesson is a gift for the year ahead, for it inspires us to not be complacent, and instead to continue to work for radical change; change in social justice, change in the way we treat our environment, change in the ways in which we treat one another.

Knowledge, experience and wisdom are sources of almost limitless possibility.

I did experience a great deal of joy and happiness in 2020, despite everything. I’m looking forward to the new year with enthusiasm because I have trained myself to look for joy all the time, even in the darkest of moments. The challenges we experienced last year will continue apace in the months ahead, and surprises are lying in wait, no doubt. Yet the human spirit is strong. Our spirits are strong. Our faith is strong. And the world is waiting for Unitarian Universalists to make their voices heard and their deeds be known.

The road goes ever on. Let’s walk it together again next year, and see where it leads us.



**Happy New Year, 2021.
Rev. Terry Cummings**

Staff & Board Reflections

A message from our Director of Lifespan Faith Development, Matthew Shineman

“You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith, and hope.” - Thomas Merton

“Without leaps of imagination or dreaming, we lost the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all is a form of planning.” - Gloria Steinem

“Faith makes all things possible... love makes all things easy.” - Dwight L. Moody

Developments in Faith

We've done it! We've made it through 2020! Perhaps not unscathed, but as you read this, the calendar has turned another page and we have tiptoed cautiously into a new year. As relieving as that may seem, there are reasons we are tiptoeing and not frolicking into the new year - we still cannot see the end of this pandemic, we have a deep urge to return to normal (while deep down knowing that what was normal will never be again), and we recognize how difficult life has been without some of those things we took for granted.

As William Arthur Ward said, “The optimist turns the impossible into the possible; the pessimist turns the possible into the impossible.” Those who have spent any significant time with me discussing faith development and our church know that I very often straddle that fine line between dreaming of the future and being critical of the present. In other words, I'm simultaneously being optimistic and pessimistic. That being said, as much as I believe that viewing things with a critical eye is important, I want to enter 2021 with an eye towards possibility.

Yes, 2020 was a difficult year. Yes, 2021 will continue to present us with challenges. However, within all challenges there are opportunities. As the Thomas Merton quote above reminds us, we need to recognize the possibilities offered by our present moment and embrace them with courage, faith, and hope. My framework for viewing faith development possibilities always is Belong, Believe, Become, so here are some of the possibilities that I see for UUCY:

BELONG

Deeper personal connections through small groups (both children and adults). While Sunday worship is an integral part of church life and faith development, it is not always the easiest place for deeper personal connection. Relationships are much easier in groups of 6-10 than they are in groups of 60-100; or, as my colleagues are apt to say: “Circles are better than rows.” With the pandemic, we have a wonderful opportunity to go deeper in our personal relationships by connecting to Small Group Ministry. This is an opportunity to know and be known by a smaller group of people and to support each other in our lives.

BELIEVE

There is a quote from the Memoirs of a Geisha that basically says that adversity shows us who we truly are. Well, this pandemic is giving us the opportunity to really reflect on our beliefs and our values. Sunday mornings provide a wonderful opportunity to reflect on your beliefs through worship, and the RE Committees are working diligently to provide opportunities for children and adults alike to explore their beliefs and values.

BECOME

If anything, the biggest opportunity in front of us is a mindset shift away from understanding church the building and only Sunday morning worship towards understanding the church as our community and all of our ministries. It is an opportunity to shift away from the one-size-fits all approach to church and move towards diversifying our ministries. One of the most promising initiatives we ran as a church during this pandemic was our Reverse Advent Calendar program. It wasn't Sunday morning worship. It wasn't small groups. It was putting faith into action, and that is as much church as Sunday morning worship or RE., Yes, they are all intimately related and we have an opportunity to better align all three. However, the goal of faith development is transformation - personal, communal, societal, etc.

I see beautiful possibilities ahead of us - individually and collectively. This pandemic did something good for many of us - it knocked us out of autopilot and said "PAY ATTENTION!" My dream for what this congregation can become, which Steinem reminds us is a form of planning, is a deeply committed collective building the beloved community. And that will require some faith. But as one of my favorite quotes by Dwight L. Moody reminds us, "Faith makes all things possible... love makes all things easy." I have faith, so I know these things are possible. But I also have a lot of love in my heart - for the individuals of our congregation, for the collective institution that is UUCY, for the community that is York, and for our country. So, it is with faith and love that I look towards our future - bright with possibilities!



**Grace and Blessings,
Matthew Shineman
Director of Lifespan Faith Development**

Staff & Board Reflections

A message from our Music Director, Gretchen Dekker

We sat together on the couch, the songbook opened on my lap, but I could not finish speaking Longfellow's words to my grandmother. "*There is no peace on earth, I said, for hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth...*" My voice caught and tears came to my eyes. Her eyes – that have seen so much yet are too blind at 96 to read – closed as she reached her hand to cover mine. We sat quietly together, waiting until I could resume reading.

This year has been filled with distressing evidence that peace on earth is still far from accomplished. While some recent events suggest that the wrong may, indeed (and finally) fail, it's unclear and sometimes disturbing to consider what might yet prevail. This pandemic, this presidency, this present-day culture, have worn all of us down. The sorrow and not-yet-processed grief over things lost, delayed, or destroyed has corroded our optimism.

And yet as December wanes, we dare to hope once more. Vaccines spell the beginning of the end of our pandemic-enforced isolation. An election offers a chance to recover our civic, and hopefully civil, society. A new calendar year promises a chance to review, refresh, and return to the work at hand believing in the possibility of real change. We find the resolve to act, to be, and to do better. We return warmed by the fire of commitment born in the coldest, most difficult circumstances.

In these hazy post-holiday weeks, I find myself recalling a different hymn text. It's Jane Laurie Borthwick's harvest poem of sorts, a strong, resolute, Victorian call to action: "*Come, labor on. Who dare stands idle on the harvest plain while all around us waves the golden grain. Go, work today.*"

When this text was written (1859), her world was as full of bigotry, exploitation, inequality, disease, and war as our own. By the time Tertius Noble set the poem to music (*Ora Labora*) in 1919, the "Great War" had come and gone, and the Spanish Flu pandemic was only half over. The loss of human life from those two events was nearly 100 million people, and they set the stage for a worldwide economic depression which then triggered the rise of fascism and a succession of wars both physical and cultural. Clearly, the work was not yet finished.

"Come, labor on." We must do the *hard* work – the uncompensated, unending, often unnoticed work – of rebuilding a peaceful, just, and healthy world. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s favorite hymn *Precious Lord* agrees that we may be "tired, weak and worn", but Longfellow reminds us in the final stanza of his poem that, "*the wrong shall fail, the right prevail with peace on earth...*" As Jill-Jackson-Miller's iconic 1955 song, sung by Mahalia Jackson at her concert in Berlin in 1967, proclaims, "*Let there be peace on earth, and **let it begin with me.***" Amen, Happy New Year, and let's get to work!

**Music Director,
Gretchen Dekker**



January Worship Schedule

ZOOM Meeting

Meeting ID: 92120756270

Passcode:1955

January 3, 2021—*There and back Again*



“Only Thing To Do! On We Go!” Thus, said Bilbo Baggins in J.R.R. Tolkien’s 1937 classic novel, *The Hobbit*.

Like Bilbo, many of us may have felt that we were unexpectedly taken on an adventure into the unknown in 2020. In our Fire Communion service this Sunday we will burn (figuratively) some of the things we won’t need on our own journeys in 2021. Please join us this Sunday as Rev. Terry reflects on the year just ended and the adventures that lie in the year ahead.

January 10, 2021— *We are a Generous Angry People*



This Sunday we will begin our annual stewardship drive. In her homily, Rev. Terry will review the three Ts of time, talent and treasure that are the foundation of our beloved and covenantal community. During our pledge drive members of our congregation will also share some memories and reflection on ways that UUCY has had an impact on their lives.

January 17, 2021— *Don't Sleep Through the Revolution*



“Don’t sleep through the revolution” was the title of the annual Ware Lecture delivered by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly in Hollywood, Florida, on May 18, 1966. In his lecture Dr. King referenced Rip Van Winkle sleeping for 20 years and waking up to find that everything had changed. In our service honoring Dr. King this Sunday, rev. Terry will reflect upon the revolution now under way following the events of the summer of 2020.

January 24, 2021— *Following the Call*



Unitarian Universalists proudly point to a list of people who used their privilege in heroic ways, people like abolitionist Rev. Theodore Parker who was active in the underground railroad. Yet there are many not-so-famous people who used their privilege in non-heroic ways. Join us this Sunday as Rev. Terry lifts up some of the not-so-famous people who have contributed to Unitarian Universalism, on whose shoulders we stand today.

January 31, 2021— *To Be Announced...*



Guest Speaker: David M. Horst

Our guest speaker this Sunday is Unitarian Universalist minister, Rev. David M. Horst, a mentor, colleague and dear friend of Rev. Terry.

Rev. David Horst is a Community Minister at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center in Connecticut and founder of The Open Circle, a spiritual guidance practice for individuals and groups. He is the Affiliate Minister at All Souls New London, Unitarian Universalist, and a member of the Spiritual Life Center in West Hartford, Spiritual Directors International, and Unitarian Universalist Society of Community Ministries.

Rev. Horst served five Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Boston area, Nantucket, and northern New Jersey for 20 years. Prior to his ministry, he completed a 20-year career in advertising, marketing, public relations, and arts and event management.

He is a 1999 graduate of the Harvard Divinity School and was ordained the same year by the Cambridge, Mass., congregation. He holds a Certificate in Spiritual Guidance at the Unitarian Universalist Rowe Center in Massachusetts.

A LOOK BACK ON OUR HOPES FOR 2020

At our Sunday morning service on January 5, 2020, members of the congregation lit candles of hope for the following to come true in 2020:

"Less judgmental, live in the present at all times."

"My hope is ... starting a new life by moving."

"Good eating habits!"

"Hope for growth, good health, peace & love -self, family, friends & word. * courage, lightness & flexibility."

"That each and every individual communicate within our covenant commitment and that we take the love of our congregation out into our community to promote social justice and change."

"I hope that in 2020 that masses of people turn from fear and animosity to love and understanding."

"New beginnings of learning to love myself."

"My son's employment. Business Development. Forgiveness to self and others."

"Something to look forward to when I wake up in the morning."

"I would like to be more comfortable and loving with myself." Concentrate on my wins rather than my losses."

"Year of decluttering. I hope to see my younger son and grandchildren this year. I hope to improve my health with better eating and daily exercise. I pray that our church thrives and that we hold space for others. I hope that Trump is not reelected and that government becomes more bipartisan in this country."

"keep a positive and grateful perspective"

A LOOK BACK ON OUR HOPES FOR 2020

"Be more positive."

Hope that I can become compassionate and patient with my mother-in-law's move into our home."

"Hope for all beings, family, & friends to live from a higher behavior and love."

"Hope for a stronger, more unified UUCY."

"To welcome more civility among all of us – welcome, as well as more integration, rather than the homogeneous islands we have sorted ourselves into."

"I hope for a new job this year."

"I hope for more love in the world in 2020.
More peace.
More community.
More joy.
More laughter."

"My hope for 2020 is routine gratitude as a coping skill, better self-awareness and the ability to trust in my own decision making. I am able to embrace change and work on self-improvement."

"Self-confidence for my son. A leader with integrity, contentment with my marriage. Peace for my best friend. Health for my parents. A healthy relationship for my daughter."

A LOOK BACK ON OUR HOPES FOR 2020

"Acceptance of all."

"May those who love us, love us." May those who don't may God turn their ankle so we know them by their liming and love them more."

"This congregation remains strong and cohesive."

"Embrace all of the UU seven principles." Remember that denial is not a river in Africa."

"Hope for new leaders in state and federal government, who have compassion for the poor, immigrants, our earth, and want to strengthen our democracy."

"A year of good health, happiness, LOVE, & continue to build a safe and loving home with my family."

"Spend more Time with what matters the most."

"Continuation of very good music and choir. And I hope UUCY can be a greener place."

"A movement towards mass sanity for the world."

A LOOK BACK ON OUR HOPES FOR 2020

"Democracy can survive." Love can abide."

*"World Peace."
Self-Acceptance*

"Year of forgiveness, abuse free and full of growth."

"Work on becoming my best self."

"My hope for 2020 is for more forgiveness & compassion."

*"Peace/new leaders.
Revolution for love."*

"Be more present at all times."

"Hope the general public will see light and do what is just and right for America and no war!"

**"LET LOVE
DRIVE ACTIONS."**

Board Meetings are held the **second Tuesday of each month** from **6:30 - 8:30 p.m.** in the Dorrie & Henry Leader Room.



Minutes can be found on our website:
<http://www.uucy.org/leadership-board.html>

Keep An Eye Out For Our NEW and IMPROVED UUCY Website Coming Early 2021!



**We're now on Instagram!
Follow us:**



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<http://www.uucy.org/>



We are excited to share with you a few new ways to give to the church:

GivePlus+ APP is a **mobile giving app** that enables you to **make one-time** or recurring gifts from your smartphone.

GivePlus+ TEXT allows you to simply text a contribution amount to
UUCY's Text Giving #: **1 855 946 1544**

You can find more information and details regarding these options [HERE](#)

Share the Plate, where 50% of your donation to UUCY is shared with a local non-profit organization.

- General contribution where 100% of your donation goes towards the General Operational activities of UUCY.

- You can now also purchase Giant/Weis scrip on-line via the Website (DONATE NOW! Button below) or through the GIVEPLUS+ APP. Once purchased, your Scrip cards will be mailed within 2-3 business days to the home address UUCY has on record for you.

DONATE

Reporting Building Issues

With the departure of our former Congregational Administrator some people have asked how they should let the church know if there are issues that need to be attended to regarding our church buildings.

For the time being, please advise Rev. Terry and she will coordinate with the appropriate staff person or outside vendor (revterry@uucy.org).

Thank you for your cooperation